

Dear FCC, Dear FCC,
ECFS - E-mail Filing
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<TEXT> Dear FCC,

Dear FCC,
Sinclair Broadcast Group is now instructing their 62 local stations, in many states, to pre-empt regular programming to air an anti-Kerry "documentary" (actually an out right "smear" piece) two weeks before the election. This unprecedented move would be direct electioneering by a corporate media giant -- and against federal election law!

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air this program just days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for THEIR bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. It's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. I want to see the FCC take steps to inform Sinclair Broadcast Group that their actions are considered electioneering unless they also air a pro-Kerry documentary, such as "Going Upriver" shortly after, for balance.

This is illegal and must be stopped, hopefully before the damage is done.
Thank you,
Terri L. Kiplinger